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Claim Amendments

1. (currently amended) An apparatus, comprising

a mobile switching component that performs a barge-in that allows a first user of a priority communication device to communicate with a second user of a mobile communication device that is engaged in a preexisting active call;

wherein the mobile switching component receives a call request ~~with an authorization code from the priority communication device~~ first user, wherein the call request ~~that~~ comprises an integrated services digital network user part (ISUP) initial address message (IAM);

wherein the initial address message comprises an operator services information parameter ~~with ; wherein the operator services information parameter comprises a special handling type value that comprises an authorization code;~~

wherein the mobile switching component employs the special handling type value to perform the barge-in.

2. (original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the mobile switching component communicates one or more indications of the barge-in to the second user of the mobile communication device.

3. (original) The apparatus of claim 2, wherein the one or more indications comprise one or more in-band indications of the barge-in, wherein the mobile switching component cooperates with the mobile communication device to communicate the one or more in-band indications of the barge-in to the second user of the mobile communication device.

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4. (original) The apparatus of claim 2, wherein the one or more indications comprise one or more out-of-band indications of the barge-in, wherein the mobile switching component cooperates with the mobile communication device to communicate the one or more out-of-band indications of the barge-in to the second user of the mobile communication device.

5. (original) The apparatus of claim 2, wherein the one or more indications comprise an entry indication and an exit indication, wherein the mobile switching component cooperates with the mobile communication device to communicate the entry indication to the second user upon a start of the barge-in;

wherein the mobile switching component cooperates with the mobile communication device to communicate the exit indication to the second user of the mobile communication device upon an end of the barge-in.

6. (original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the preexisting active call comprises a preexisting active call between the mobile communication device and one or more additional communication devices;

wherein the mobile switching component performs the barge-in to allow the first user to participate in the preexisting active call between the mobile communication device and the one or more additional communication devices.

7. (original) The apparatus of claim 6, wherein the mobile switching component communicates one or more indications of the barge-in to the one or more additional communication devices.

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8. (original) The apparatus of claim 6, wherein the mobile switching component communicates one or more indications of the barge-in to the mobile communication device and the one or more additional communication devices.

9. (original) The apparatus of claim 6, wherein the mobile switching component places one or more of the one or more additional communication devices on hold for a duration of the barge-in.

10-11. (canceled)

12. (original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the mobile switching component employs one or more priority user designations from the second user to perform a determination that the first user is a priority user;

wherein upon the determination that the first user is a priority user, the mobile switching component performs the barge-in to allow the priority user to communicate with the second user.

13. (original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the mobile switching component receives a request to perform the barge-in from an operator that acts on behalf of the first user;

wherein the mobile switching component employs the request to perform the barge-in to allow the first user to communicate with the second user.

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14. (original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the mobile switching component comprises a home mobile switching center for the mobile communication device, wherein the home mobile switching center receives a request for the barge-in, the apparatus further comprising:

a visited mobile switching center for the mobile communication device;

wherein the home mobile switching center identifies the visited mobile switching center through employment of the home location register;

wherein the home mobile switching center and the visited mobile switching center cooperate to perform the barge-in to allow the first user to participate in the preexisting active call with the second user of the mobile communication device.

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15. (currently amended) A method, comprising the step of:

receiving a call request from a first user of a priority communication device, wherein the call request comprises an integrated services digital user part (ISUP) initial address message (IAM), wherein the initial address message comprises an ~~authorization code from the first user,~~ wherein the initial address message comprises an operator services information parameter with, ~~wherein the operator services information parameter comprises a special handling type value that~~ comprises an authorization code;

performing, by a mobile switching component, a barge-in through employment of the special handling type value that allows the first user to communicate with a second user of a mobile communication device that is engaged in a preexisting active call.

16. (original) The method of claim 15, wherein the step of performing the barge-in that allows the first user to communicate with the second user of the mobile communication device that is engaged in the preexisting active call comprises the steps of:

determining that the first user is a priority user; and

bridging a call leg of the priority user with a call leg of the second user.

17. (original) The method of claim 16, further comprising the step of:

identifying a visited mobile switching center that is synchronized with the mobile communication device through employment of a home location register;

wherein the step of bridging the call leg of the priority user with the call leg of the second user comprises the step of:

cooperating with the visited mobile switching center to bridge the call leg of the priority user with the call leg of the second user.

18. (original) The method of claim 15, further comprising the step of:
communicating one or more indications of the barge-in to the mobile communication device.

19. (original) The method of claim 15, wherein the preexisting active call comprises a preexisting active call between the mobile communication device and one or more additional communication devices, the method further comprising the step of:

placing one or more of the one or more additional communication devices on hold for a duration of the barge-in.

20. (currently amended) An article, comprising:
one or more computer-readable signal-bearing media; and
means in the one or more media for receiving a call request from a first user of a priority communication device, wherein the call request comprises an integrated services digital user part (ISUP) initial address message (IAM), wherein the initial address message comprises an ~~authorization code from the first user, wherein the initial address message comprises an operator services information parameter with, wherein the operator services information parameter~~ comprises a special handling type value that comprises an authorization code;

means in the one or more media for performing, by a mobile switching component, a barge-in through employment of the special handling type value to allow the first user to participate in a preexisting active call with a second user of a mobile communication device.

21. (previously presented) The method of claim 15, wherein the step of performing the barge-in through employment of the mobile switching component that allows the first user to communicate with the second user of the mobile communication device that is engaged in the preexisting active call comprises the steps of:

- determining a mobile identification number for the mobile communication device;
- requesting from a home location register a location of and/or route to the mobile communication device through employment of the mobile identification number;
- receiving a temporary local directory number from the home location register;
- bridging a call leg of the priority user with a call leg of the second user;
- sending a confirmation message of the bridging of the call legs to the priority user.

22. (previously presented) The method of claim 21, wherein the step of bridging the call leg of the priority user with the call leg of the second user comprises the step of:

- sending a call request to a visited mobile switching center, wherein the call request comprises the temporary local directory number, wherein the visited mobile switching center performs the bridging of the call leg of the priority user with the call leg of the second user;
- receiving a confirmation of the call request from the visited mobile switching center;
- forwarding the confirmation of the call request to the priority user;
- wherein the step of sending the confirmation message of the bridging of the call legs to the priority user comprises the steps of:
 - receiving a confirmation of the bridging of the call leg of the priority user with the call leg of the second user;
 - forwarding the confirmation of the bridging to the priority user.